(c) the steps taken and being taken to curb and control the menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NT. SHANMUGAM): (a) to (c) Based on the study by the Indian Council of Medical Research utilising the data of National Sample Survey Organisation, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research etc., the estimated number of deaths every year in India due to tobacco is about 8 lakhs. The year-wise break up of deaths due to tobacco use is not available.

The Committee on Subordinate Legislation (Tenth Lok Sabha) in its 22nd report had made several recommendations primarily intended to discourage the use of tobacco and tobacco products. The Government is examining these recommendations and a draft legislation is under consideration of the Government.

Affairs of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

*231. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the results of the probe conducted by the Rastogi Committee (1998) set up by the Ministry of probe into the alleged wrongs undertaken by the officers and authorities of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan in the first half of the last decade of 20th century; and

(b) what are the steps taken/contemplated to stop such acts in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan in future?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The Ministry set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Krishna Gopal Rastogi to inquire into the allegations of administrative and financial irregularities against authorities of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. The Committee has since submitted its report and the report is being examined by the Government. However, pending action on the report, in the matters of transfer, posting, appointments and admissions, transparent systems are being introduced and it is a continuous process.

Incidences of theft from Railway Bogies during transit

*232. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS